



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

CHUN-POK LEUNG
TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW LLP
TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER
8TH FLOOR
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834

MAILED

JUL 28 2005

Technology Center 2100

In re Application of: Nomoto, et al.
Application No. 10/729,536
Filed: 5 December 2003
For: DATA CONVERSION METHOD AND
COMPUTER SYSTEM THEREFOR

DECISION ON PETITION
TO MAKE SPECIAL
(ACCELERATED EXAMINATION)
UNDER M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)

This is a decision on the petition filed 19 November 2004, under 37 C.F.R. 102(d) and M.P.E.P. § 708.02(VIII): Accelerated Examination, to make the above-identified application special.

The Petition is **DISMISSED**.

M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Section VIII which sets out the prerequisites for a grantable petition for Accelerated Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 102(d) states in relevant part:

A new application (one which has not received any examination by the examiner) may be granted special status provided that applicant (and this term includes applicant's attorney or agent) complies with each of the following items:

- (a) Submits a petition to make special accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(h);
- (b) Presents all claims directed to a single invention, or if the Office determines that all the claims presented are not obviously directed to a single invention, will make an election without traverse as a prerequisite to the grant of special status;
- (c) Submits a statement(s) that a pre-examination search was made, listing the field of search by class and subclass, publication, Chemical Abstracts, foreign patents, etc. The pre-examination search must be directed to the invention as claimed in the application for which special status is requested. A search made by a foreign patent office satisfies this requirement;
- (d) Submits one copy each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims if said references are not already of record; and

(e) Submits a detailed discussion of the references, which discussion points out, with the particularity required by 37 CFR 1.111 (b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references.

The petition filed 19 November 2004 fails to adequately meet requirement (e) as set forth above. Responsive to requirement (e), applicant must provide a "detailed discussion of the references, which discussion points out, with the particularity required by 37 CFR 1.111 (b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references." Petitioner should ensure that the above discussion is directed to *how the language of each of the independent claims are specifically distinguishable and patentable from the references* provided pursuant to requirement (d) supra.

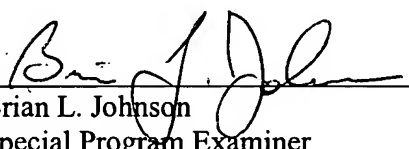
Applicant's petition fails to provide a "detailed discussion of the references" with the requisite particularity that illuminates the salient prior art issues relative to the claimed subject matter. The petition furnishes only a terse squib as the "detailed discussion" for each of the references. For example, in addressing references 1, 2, 3, et seq. Petitioner simply supplies a short, two-sentence abstract for each reference. This sparse summary of each reference does not provide the requisite "detailed discussion of the references" in accordance with section (e) supra. Petitioner's cursory treatment of the references does not detail, with the particularity called for under section (e), the relevancy of the prior art pedagogy in order to sufficiently set forth a case distinguishing the limitations claimed to be patentable in relation to the given reference.

In the discussion of the references, Petitioner is required to point out (substantively detail) the prior art elements and associations germane to the claims to fully flesh-out the comparison between the referenced prior art and Applicant's claimed features. Likewise, the petition must show, for each independent-claim, specific language that distinguishes over each given reference in order to specify "how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references."

Petition to Make Special **DISMISSED**.

Petitioner is given one opportunity to perfect the petition. Any request for reconsideration must be filed within TWO MONTHS of the mail date of this decision.

Until the renewed petition is submitted, the application will be returned to the examiner's docket to await treatment on the merits in the normal order of examination.


Brian L. Johnson
Special Program Examiner
Technology Center 2100
Computer Architecture, Software and Information Security
571-272-3595

GO